

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A multi-valve damper for an airflow duct, comprising:

 a plug body having a proximal end and a distal end, and said plug body adapted to extend across a section of an airflow duct to separate a said duct section of an airflow duct into at least two airflow sections; and

 at least two damper blades mounted on said distal end of said plug body, each of said damper blades controlling airflow in a respective airflow section.

2. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

 said plug body bifurcates said duct section into two airflow sections.

3. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

 said at least two airflow sections comprise equal sections.

4. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

 at least one airflow sensor in each of said airflow sections for controlling said damper blade in said respective airflow section.

5. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 4, wherein:

 said at least one sensor comprises at least one of a vortex type sensor, a pitot type sensor, or a thermal type sensor.

6. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 4, further comprising:

 an actuator mechanism responsive to said sensors for opening and closing said at least

two damper blades simultaneously.

7. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 4, further comprising:

an actuator mechanism associated with each damper blade, each of said actuator mechanisms being responsive to said at least one airflow sensor in a respective airflow section for opening and closing a respective damper blade independently of other damper blades.

8. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said proximal end of said plug body has an aerodynamic shape which minimizes the disruption of airflow into said airflow sections.

9. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said distal end of said plug body has a substantially flat shape.

10. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said duct section is one of round, rectangular, or oval.

11. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said damper blades are mounted such that each damper blade closes its respective airflow section when said damper blade is at an angle of approximately 45 degrees with respect to a longitudinal axis of said plug body.

12. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said damper blades are mounted such that each damper blade rotates through an angle of approximately 45 degrees from fully closed to fully opened.

13. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said damper blades are mounted such that each damper blade rotates through an angle of approximately 90 degrees from fully closed to fully opened.

14. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
at least one electrically controlled actuator for opening and closing said damper blades.
15. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
at least one pneumatically controlled actuator for opening and closing said damper blades.
16. (Currently amended) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
said damper is adapted for use with an said airflow duct which is constructed of one of aluminum, galvanized steel, stainless steel, fiberglass, or plastic.
17. (Currently amended) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
said damper is adapted for use with a duct section having perforated inner walls of the duct section are perforated.
18. (Currently amended) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
said damper is adapted for use with a duct section having inner walls of the duct section which are lined with perforated sheet metal.
19. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 18, wherein:
a fiberglass material is packed between the perforated sheet metal and the inner walls.
20. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
at least the proximal end of the plug body is perforated.
21. (Original) A damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
at least the proximal end of the plug body is constructed of perforated sheet metal; and
at least a perforated portion of the plug body is packed with a fiberglass material.

22. (Currently amended) A method for controlling airflow in an airflow duct, comprising:

providing a plug body extending across a section of an airflow duct for separating a the duct section of an airflow duct into at least two airflow sections;

providing a damper blade at the end of each of said airflow sections for controlling airflow in each airflow section.

23. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

said duct section is bifurcated into two airflow sections.

24. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

said at least two airflow sections comprise equal sections.

25. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, further comprising:

providing at least one airflow sensor in each of said airflow sections for controlling said damper blade in said respective airflow section.

26. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 25, wherein:

said at least one sensor comprises at least one of a vortex type sensor, a pitot type sensor, or a thermal type sensor.

27. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 25, further comprising:

providing an actuator mechanism responsive to said sensors for opening and closing said damper blades simultaneously.

28. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 25, further comprising:

providing an actuator mechanism associated with each damper blade, each of said actuator mechanisms being responsive to said at least one airflow sensor in a respective airflow section for opening and closing a respective damper blade independently of other damper blades.

29. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

 said duct section is separated by a plug body having has an aerodynamically shaped proximal end which minimizes the disruption of airflow into said airflow sections.

30. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

 said duct section is separated by a plug body having has a substantially flat shaped distal end.

31. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

 said duct section is one of round, rectangular, or oval.

32. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

 said damper blades are mounted such that each damper blade closes its respective airflow section when said damper blade is at an angle of approximately 45 degrees with respect to a longitudinal axis of said plug body.

33. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

 said damper blades are mounted such that each damper blade rotates through an angle of approximately 45 degrees from fully closed to fully opened.

34. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

 said damper blades are mounted such that each damper blade rotates through an angle of approximately 90 degrees from fully closed to fully opened.

35. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, further comprising:

 providing at least one electrically controlled actuator for opening and closing said damper blades.

36. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, further comprising:

providing at least one pneumatically controlled actuator for opening and closing said damper blades.

37. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

said damper is adapted for use with an said airflow duct which is constructed of one of aluminum, galvanized steel, stainless steel, fiberglass, or plastic.

38. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

said damper is adapted for use with a duct section having perforated inner walls of the duct section are perforated.

39. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

said damper is adapted for use with a duct section having inner walls of the duct section which are lined with perforated sheet metal.

40. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 39, further comprising:

packing a fiberglass material between the perforated sheet metal and the inner walls.

41. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

at least the proximal end of the plug body is perforated.

42. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:

at least the proximal end of the plug body is constructed of perforated sheet metal; and at least a perforated portion of the plug body is packed with a fiberglass material.